

23. (withdrawn) The actuator device according to claim 22, wherein the gear including the depression portion further includes:

a small diameter gear portion located on the shaft portion;

a cylindrical large diameter gear portion located radially outward of the shaft portion; and

a coupling portion, which radially extends between the shaft portion and the large diameter gear portion to integrally couple the large diameter gear portion to the shaft portion,

wherein the depression portion extends from the coupling portion in the circumferential direction of the corresponding gear.

24. (withdrawn) The actuator device according to claim 21, wherein the gear including the depression portion has a small diameter gear portion and a large diameter gear portion, which are integrally formed with each other, and the depression portion is provided on the large diameter gear portion to be located radially outward of the small diameter gear portion.

#### **REMARKS**

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby elects the claims of **Group I**, without traverse.

Claims 21-24 have been withdrawn. Claims 1-20 are pending. The claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested.

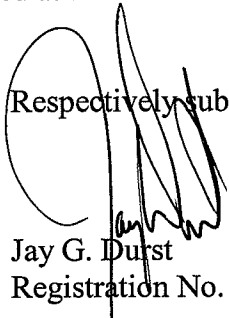
U.S. Serial No. 10/533,896 Shinmura et al.  
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**Conclusion**

Applicant respectfully requests a one month extension of time to file the current Reply. The director is authorized to charge the associated fee (\$120.00), and direct any additional fees associated with this or any other communication, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account number 50-1170.

Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below number.

Respectively submitted,

  
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**Customer Account No.: 23598**

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